Proposals on Education Cess

2703. DR. KARAN SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would consider proposals made by the Committee of the Central Advisory Board on Education Cess;

(b) where the Committee has expressed the view that Government have to bear most of the financial burden of the State;

(c) whether this would mean that one has to continue to pay Education Cess at least up to 2011-12;

(d) whether CABE Committee has also suggested to a Centrally sponsored scheme on a secondary education;

(e) the proposals made by the Committee; and

(f) whether these schemes would remain upto the completion of Tenth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) to (c) The Central Advisory Board of Education's (CABE) Committee on "Free and Compulsory Education Bill and other issues related to Elementary Education" has in its Report, observed that "the very substantial financial implications of the recommended provisions may have to be borne almost entirely by the Central Government .....". The Report does not however contain any proposal regarding the Education Cess.

(d) to (f) The CABE Committee on Universalisation of Secondary Education has, in its Report observed that financing of universal secondary education must be a collective responsibility of the Centre, States and the Community (Social financing). Further, the Committee has recommended that a Centrally sponsored scheme for secondary education be implemented under which the Centre-State sharing pattern should be 85:15 till the end of Tenth Plan and 75:25 during the Eleventh Plan.